



CITY OF HEALDSBURG
Department of Public Works

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September 7, 2007

Mr. Robert Klamt
Interim Executive Officer
California Regional Water Quality Control Board
North Coast Region
5550 Skylane Boulevard, Suite A
Santa Rosa, CA 95403

Re: September 13th North Coast RWQCB Meeting Agenda Item #5, Resolution 2007-73
Policy Statement in the Matter of Recycled Water Use in the North Coast Region

Dear Mr. Klamt,

On September 13th, your Board will consider adopting the proposed Policy Statement in the Matter of Recycled Water Use in the North Coast Region. This policy would reaffirm the Regional Board's support of water recycling projects, and recognize that revisions to the Basin Plan are necessary to allow low threat discharges during the dry-weather season, providing that appropriate best management practices are implemented and beneficial uses are protected. The City of Healdsburg offers this letter to express our support for this policy statement.

While the resolution and staff report specifically recognizes the City of Santa Rosa's water recycling efforts and future plans, this policy statement is of particular importance to the City of Healdsburg as well. As you may be aware, the City of Healdsburg has been required to comply with the Basin Plan's seasonal discharge prohibition, and the City has identified reclamation as its long-term strategy for compliance. The City prepared and certified an Environmental Impact Report in 2005, which detailed the City's plans for an extensive piping system to serve agricultural irrigators outside of the City, as well as urban irrigation within the City's corporate limits. The City will soon submit a Recycled Water Engineering Report for this system to the Regional Board, and may begin detailed design on the system soon afterwards.

The City has spent approximately \$32 million constructing a new, state of the art, wastewater treatment plant and will need to commit significant additional resources to construct the recycled water system. It is particularly important to the City that the Regional Board modify the long-standing prohibition on low threat discharges. As other cities and the Russian River Watershed Association have commented, incidental runoff from properly managed recycled water irrigation sites do not adversely affect water quality when properly operated and maintained.

The City appreciates the efforts of the Regional Board staff on this matter, and strongly encourages the Board to adopt the proposed policy statement.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael Kim".

Michael Kim
City Engineer

cc: Chet Wysteppek